From: African American Mayors Association
To: COH - Mayor
Subject: April / May 2016 AAMA E-Newsletter
Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 3:52:04 PM

AAMA April / May 2016 E-Newsletter
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AFRICAN AMERICAN MAYORS ASSOCIATION
APRIL / MAY 2016 E-NEWSLETTER

L to r- Mayor Sly James (Kansas City, MO), Mayor William Johnson (Holly Hill, SC), Mayor Muriel Bowser (Washington, DC), Mayor Steve Benjamin (Columbia, SC), Ambassador Michael Froman (US Trade Representative), Mayor Toni Harp (New Haven, CT), Mayor Patrick Green (Normandy, MO) and Mayor Johnny Ford (Tuskegee, AL). Click here to view more photos of the AAMA 2016 Annual Conference "The Urgency of Now".

President's Welcome

Dear Mayors, Business Council, and Supporters of AAMA,

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2016 AAMA Annual Conference on April 21-22, 2016 in Crystal City, VA. Our theme, "The Urgency of Now," perfectly captured the essence of the eminent challenges facing mayors across the country.

AAMA is at the forefront of addressing the most prevalent issues for African American mayors and their communities today. We were very pleased to welcome prestigious speakers that included U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King, U.S. Ambassador Michael Froman, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Representative Emanuel Cleaver (MO-5), and U.S. Representative C.K. Butterfield (NC-1). In addition, workshops provided important information on grants for cities, municipal recovery under antitrust laws, perspectives from the Alumni Mayors Forum, and education among other pertinent topics. Mayors once again had the opportunity to visit the White House for a briefing from senior Administration officials on pressing issues including criminal justice reform.

The 2016 Annual Conference was an enormous success, and I am honored to be elected as the 2016-2017 AAMA President. Please save the date for the 2017 Annual Conference on April 27-28, 2017, at the Marriott Marquis on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. I look forward to working with each and every one of you between now and then as we continue to grow our organization. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have suggestions or questions along the way.

Regards,

Mayor Sylvester "Sly" James
Kansas City, Missouri

The Sophisticated Ladies of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts gave an outstanding performance at the AAMA 2016 Annual Conference Keynote Dinner & Awards Reception on April 21st. AAMA is very pleased to extend a cordial invitation on behalf of the Sophisticated Ladies to attend a concert performance of George Gershwin's Porgy & Bess on June 18, 2016 at 4pm at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 1514 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005. Click here to purchase tickets.

AAMA would like to express its deepest condolences at the passing of **Mayor James Walls (District Heights, MD)** on Thursday, May 12, 2016.

Click here for ABC2.com news coverage.

Business Council Resources:

eRepublic's State and local government and education market insights for companies looking to grow their public-sector market share.

McKinsey & Company, Five priorities for competing in an era of digital globalization.

Click to access the recorded Governing magazine Webinar: The State and Local P3 Trends: Market Opportunities and Case Studies.

Click to read the Governing article, "The Tools We Need to Measure the Real Value of P3s".

Mayor Michael B. Coleman (Columbus, OH) receives the first annual Maynard B. Jackson Award from former AAMA President Mayor Steve Benjamin. (Columbia, SC).

Congratulations to the 2016 Award Recipients!

Maynard Jackson Award. Named after the late Mayor Maynard Jackson (Atlanta, GA), this award is given to a current or former mayor who exhibited excellence in the area of economic and infrastructure development in their community. *The 2016 Maynard Jackson Award recipient was former Mayor Michael B. Coleman (Columbus, OH).*

Small Cities Membership Scholarship. A one-year of membership scholarship for a mayor in a city with a population of less than 10,000.

• Mayor Ronald T. Jones (North Courtland, AL)
• Mayor Deborah A. Jackson (Lithonia, GA)
• Mayor Debbie Meyers-Martin (Village of Olympia Fields, IL)
• Mayor Gerald Williams (White Castle, LA)
• Mayor Lee Walker (Landover Hills, MD)
• Mayor Terry Wright (Brunson, SC)
• Mayor Mary Ferguson-Glenn (Carlisle, SC)
• Mayor John R. Carter (Gray Court, SC)
• Mayor Michael Butler (Orangeburg, SC)
• Helen Carson-Peterson (St. Matthews, SC)

Justice Keepers Grant. Two $2,500 one-time awards given to a city or non-profit organization committed to criminal justice reform or improving

What Works Cities is a national initiative working with U.S. cities with populations between 100,000 and 1 million to improve cities' data and evidence practice. Funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies, What Works Cities is providing free technical assistances to cities committed to improving the way they use data in governance and decision making. Working with world-class partners, WWC collaborates with participating cities to design a customized approach to help city leaders address local issues, including economic development, city services, and public health and safety. Applications are being reviewed periodically; the sooner you apply the better!

Zika Virus

Click to view the White House video, "Our Response to the Zika Virus". (May 12, 2016)

Click here to view the Center for Disease

the lives of young men and boys of color.

• City of North Chicago, IL
• Hank Stewart Foundation (Atlanta, GA)

AAMA 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
April 27-28, 2017, Marriott Marquis, Washington, DC (Capitol Hill)

Featured Mayor

Sylvester Turner (Houston, TX)

Mayor Sylvester Turner was elected Mayor of Houston on December 12, 2015, to serve a four

Control (CDC) slides about the Zika Virus. (May 11, 2016)

Click here to read *Why Congress needs to act on the Zika Virus* (White House, April 6, 2016).

Click to read the White House February 8, 2016 Fact Sheet on Preparing for and Responding to the Zika Virus At Home and Abroad.

Committees Corner

African American Women Mayors Committee

The second meeting of the Women Mayors Committee took place in conjunction with the 2016 Annual Conference at the Doubletree Hotel in Crystal City, VA on April 23, 2016. Seven women mayors were on hand to discuss issues ranging from domestic violence against women to women veterans homelessness and Pay equity and education for women. Information will be forthcoming about the next Women Mayors Committee teleconference.

Related article:
Click to read more about National Women's Health Week May 8-13, 2016, from CDC.gov.

Mayors History Committee

Under the guidance and leadership of AAMA Historian and Trustee Emeritus Mayor Johnny Ford (Tuskegee, AL), the History Committee is currently embarking on a project to build a digital reference archive of the history of the association of African American mayors in conjunction with

year term beginning January 4, 2016. Sylvester Turner was born and raised in the Acres Homes community in northwest Houston. His parents moved to Acres Homes in 1954, the year Sylvester was born.

Sylvester graduated from the University of Houston and Harvard Law School before joining the law firm of Fulbright & Jaworski. He later founded the Houston law firm of Barnes & Turner in 1983.

In 1988, Sylvester was elected to the Texas House of Representatives to serve the people of House District 139 in Northwest Houston. He served until his election as mayor, working on the House Appropriations Committee for 21 years and serving as Speaker Pro Tem for three terms. He was appointed to several Budget Conference Committees to help balance the state's budget and served on the Legislative Budget Board. (from Mayor's Office houstontx.gov)

Click here to read the full biography of Mayor Sylvester Turner.

Historical Black Mayor

Lee P. Brown
Former Mayor of Houston, TX (served January 2, 1998 – January 2, 2004)

The Honorable Lee P. Brown was the first African American mayor to be elected mayor of Houston. Click here to read more about Mayor Brown who is also known as the "Father of Community Policing".

Click the photo above to view a video of former Houston mayor Professor Lee P. Brown (Harvard Institute of Politics) speaking on Ferguson, police departments and community relations, and the biggest problem facing police departments.

the Department of History of the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill). All mayors are encouraged to forward digital copies of any photographs or articles relevant to any historical African American mayors of their cities.

State Chapter Committee

AAMA was on hand when the Maryland Black Mayors (MBM) hosted the MBM Honors Fundraising Gala 2016 on Friday, May 6, 2016. AAMA Trustee and Chairwoman of the AAMA State Chapter Committee Mayor Jacqueline Goodall (Forest Heights, MD) is the president of MBM. Six noteworthy students were honored with college scholarships.

Recent AAMA News and Press Releases

1) "Urgency of Now" Conference African American Mayors Across the Country Meet with Federal Officials. Click here to view the 2016 Annual Conference agenda.
2) African American Mayors Commend President Obama's SCOTUS Nomination of Judge Garland.

3) Standing on His Shoulders: The Legacy of Mayor Carl B. Stokes.

4) Support President Obama's Executive Actions on Immigration: Join the Amicus Brief.

5) Read the statement about the Op-Ed Congress Must Pass the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act of 2015. The full text of the Op-Ed can be read here.

6) AAMA Responds to State of Emergency in Flint, Michigan.

7) Response to President Obama's State of the Union Address.

8) Mayors and Chiefs of Police Urge Congress to Quickly Enact the Bipartisan Sentencing and Reform.

Click to watch Harvard IOP panel discussion, Reflections on Ferguson with Charles J. Ogletree, Ray Hammond, Alex Jones and Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake (Baltimore, MD).

Resources

1) Click to read Civic Leaders and the "Why" of Change by Governing.

2) Read Governing article, 5 Urgent Public Management Issues.

3) Click to read Governing article, "6 Questions About Financing Infrastructure, Answered".

4) Read One Woman's Crusade to Ban the Box on College Applications (Governing).

5) Read Turning Black Lives Matter Protests into Policy (Governing).

6) Click to read Cities Create Their Own Greener Transit Apps. (Governing)

7) Read Should Economic Development Focus on People or Places? from Governing.

8) Click to read Governing's How America's Mayors Are Taking the Lead on Income Inequality.

9) Read Governing article, Immigrants Establishing Roots in New Gateway Cities.

10) Read Cities Build Up Innovation to Tackle Breakdown to Urban Infrastructure.

11) Read 5 Reasons Why Cities Hold the Key to Delivering Climate Success.

12) Click to read the Root's, "Google Gives 1 Million to Bryan Stevenson's Equal Justice

9) AAMA President Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin Says "Yes" to Sentencing and Corrections Reform, "No" to Men's Rea Requirement.

AAMA Internships Available!

Please click here to view the internship opportunities with the African American Mayors Association.

Read The Root article about Ona Judge Staines: She Challenged George Washington and Won Her Freedom.

Initiative."

13) Click to read Hultgren and Ruppersberger Launch Caucus to Promote Municipal Financing for Local Communities.

14) Read 1776 article on How States Incentivize Startups- And How Startups Should React.

15) Click to read "Fact Sheet: The President's Fiscal Year 2017 Budget"- Supporting African American Families.

16) U.S. DOL Notification: $5M in Grants Available to Create Jail-Based Employment Centers.

17) Read, "A Make-or-Break Moment in the War on Homelessness" from Governing magazine.

18) Read the NPS press release, "All National Parks to Offer Free Admission on 16 Days in 2016".

19) Click to read articles by Alan Spears, Director of Cultural Resources, Government Affairs, National Park Conservation Association.

20) Read about financing available through Invest in the USA which is part of USCIS EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program.

21) Access the EPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool here.

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